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'Unprecedented' poverty Port Cares reports on social assistance Page 12



INPORTANEWS

WAINFLEET . SHERKSTON . LOWBANKS . ISSUE NO. 39 VOLUME 13 For news updated daily see www.inportnews.ca

INPORT NEWS

New contact information InPort Name Staff

In light of The Tribune's Port Colborne office closure, staff can now be reached at the Welland office. Sales representative JoAnn Schaubel can be reached at 905-732-2414 ext. 392, via fax at 905-732-0965, or at salesreps@inportnews.com.

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WAINFLEET FALL FAIR: Annual event stays true to its roots

A growing success story

MAGGIE RIOPELLE InPort News Staff

WAINFLEET - Organizers expected 6,000 people to flow through

gates at the Wainfleet Fall Fair. The three day event, which is growing thanks to a refocus on the agricultural aspect, started last Thursday and wrapped up Saturday with a full day of entertainment, Wainfleet Idol competition, pet

show, kids tractor pull and pumpkin carving.

"Basically, fairs are a dying breed," said Wainfleet Agricultural Society president David Wyatt. "It's important for people to understand their agricultural heritage. People need to know where their food

comes from ... not the grocery store shelves."

In its 42nd year, the fair tried to keep true to its roots celebrating locally grown produce and cattle farms. There were prize winning pumpkins, tomatoes and corn on display, as well as prize bunny rab-

bits, roosters, and geese. "We want to have that focal point ... most fairs today are midways and shows," he said. While the fair keeps true to its roots, Wvatt said it's also important to provide entertainment. This year, the event featured a lot of home-

grown talent, he said, which likely helped increase the number of visitors Most fairs, he said, are seeing the numbers through the gates get-ting smaller every year but this fair is seeing an increase year after year. Last year, about 5,000 attended over the three day period and

this year, organizers estimated about 6,000 visited. Last year, the fair added a farmers' market and pancake breakfast - both were wellreceived and continued as part of this year's festivities.

See WAINFLEET FALL FAIR | Page 2



MAGGIE RIOPELLE Staff Photo Kristen Oudman, 8, and Chloe Grabell, 7, looked at one of many displays

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> Port Colborne



of vegetables, flowers and plants at the Wainfleet Fall Fair,

20 Berkley Avenue

Port Colborne

INKING OF BUYING OR SELLING? CALL MICHAEL FOR THE HOMETOWN ADVANTAGE

upfront

WAINFI FET FALL FAIR

Big success for small town event



MAGGIE RIOPELLE Staff Photo A group of children gather around to pet a rabbit at the Wainfleet Fall Fair. There were many award-winning bunnies, roosters and geese on display.

"What fair shouldn't have a farmers'

market?" he asked. "On Friday, we had school tours. We bad much more participation from Port Col-

borne schools and the kids loved it." It helps, he said, to have new volunteers bringing new ideas to the table. Without the nearly 200 volunteers, as well as support from local corporations, the fair wouldn't be possible, he said.

Fairs can be costly, he said, as last year expenses were \$50,000 with only half of that being recouped at the gates.

In today's economy, Wyatt said, it's important for organizers to keep rates low to encourage families to visit. There has to be a balance between dollars at the gates, quality activities, and sup-

port from the companies, volunteers and Luckily, people are always stepping up to

the plate and people keep coming back to the fair, he said.

"The feedback from the community is that they are ecstatic ... we are getting visitors from all over and they say this is a great small-town country fair."

■ HEALTHCARE: NHS and Niagara EMS reach agreement

Non-emergency patients to go to urgent care centres

PORT COLBORNE - Ambulances will

bring non-emergency patients to Port Colborne and Fort Erie urgent care centres. Sunday, Niagara Health System and Niagara Emergency Medical Services sent out a joint press release announcing new guidelines developed to allow non-emergency patients to be transported to the urgent care centres.

"There's no question it's a step in the right direction," said Port Colborne Mayor Vance Badawey "It's something we did identify ... and

how important it is to continue that service in the community. We have the 'H' staying on the hospital, EMS back at the hospital ... it's all a work in progress. At the end of the day, it is our intention to enhance services at Port Colborne hospital."

After the emergency room in Port Col-borne was converted to an urgent care centre, ambulances no longer brought patients there. It was suspected the same would bappen at Fort Erie's Douglas Memorial hospital. That will now change. "We are extremely pleased to have these protocols in place to support the new

urgent care centres in Fort Erie and Port At the end of the day, it is our intention to enhance services at Port Colborne hospital.

Mayor Vance Badawey

We are extremely pleased to have these protocols in place to support the new urgent care centres in Fort Erie and Port Colborne.

Debbie Sevenpifer, NHS president/CEO

Colborne," says NHS president/CEO Debbie Sevenpifer. "A number of people worked very diligently to achieve this result on behalf of our patients including our doctors, Niagara EMS and Mayor Doug Martin and his team at the Town of Fort

The new guidelines have been imple-mented in Fort Erie where the ER was recently converted to an urgent care centre. In October, the same guidelines will be implemented in Port Colborne.

NHS and Niagara EMS have been working collaboratively to develop new guidelines for non-emergency patients to be transferred to urgent care centres.

Acutely ill emergency patients will continue to be taken to the most appropriate hospital with an emergency room

"This process will better allow EMS to match the health care services patients in Fort Erie need with the care available in their community" said Niagara EMS chief John Cunnane. "Having guidelines such as these enable paramedics in collaboration with other health professionals to make these decisions safely and effectively, keeping the best interests of the patients as the

Imagine Life Without Back Pain!

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portraits

Fall fair fun

Scenes from the Wainfleet Fall Fair held Sept. 24 to 26. Photos by Maggie Riopelle, InPort News Staff





Above: The fall fair just wouldn't be the same without some cattle in the barn. At the Wainfleet Fall Fair, there were cows, sheep and even alpacas on display.

Above: A group of children carved their pumpkins at the fall fair. The event was expected to draw about 6,000 people during its three-day duration.

Below: Award-winning jams, pears and sauces were on display at the fair.





Avery Smits-Talving, 6, digs into her pumpkin as she participates in the carving contest.



Dan Rykse paints name plates and sayings free hand as a thank you to visitors.

INPORTANEWS

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SUN MEDIA



amazement

Marathon of Hope sprints forward

The Terry Fox Marathon of Hope hasn't aged in its 29 years.
It seems to renew itself each year to everyone's

One reason is that few people have not been touched by cancer themselves, in their families and among their friends.

Mothers, fathers, grandparents, brothers, sisters and children — odds are that someone in your life has been affected by cancer. And one day, you might also suffer from

the deadly disease.

Another reason is that Terry Fox's story remains immedi-

ate for young people.

As was pointed out at Lakeshore Catholic High School, where students raised \$5,800, Terry was the same age of

many of our local students when he learned he had a cancer that cost him his leg and eventually his life. His story resonates with the young while his quest for a cure wrenches at the hearts and minds of adults. When we look at the continued success of the run, we must eablit the while relations skill of its national own.

must salute the public relations skill of its national organizers The Terry Fox Foundation.

They keep the quest alive and fresh, in addition to his memory and his mission.

In Port, a number of residents also had their long and short locks clipped for a good cause. Some did it to raise money, while others donated their hair to worthy organizations that provide wigs for cancer patients. A relatively recent innovation is National School Run

Day which was held Sept. 25.
It allows schools to participate separately from the second Sunday of September Terry Fox Run day, Educators use Terry Fox as a role model and his story an inspirational teaching tool.

This continues to appeal to young people at schools like McKay Elementary School — whose students made their way from the school to H.H. Knoll Lakeview Park last Friday — is what keeps the Marathon of Hope going.

Terry's message was heard loud and clear as students marched down the street chanting, carrying flags and wearing T-shirts adorned with Terry's smiling face.

It has raised more than \$490 million for cancer research. While an ultimate cure for all cancers still eludes researchers, many ways to ease the effects of various forms has been found.

It's a matter of time, effort and funding as we keep running for Terry, September after September. ■ LOCAL EVENT: Barbecue fires up support for Every Kid



Submitted Photo

Every Kid in Our Community Prot Colborner/Wainfleet held its fourth and final summer neighborhood bathecue on Sunday, Sept. 13. More than 150 people dropped by Victoria Park and the Port Cares Reach Out Centre to enjoy free food, a bouncer, games, face painting and more. The summer harbecues were a huge success and Every Kid in Our Community was fortunate to have the support and commitment from many Coal Volunteers and businesses.

I'VE BEEN THINKING ABOUT...

Celebrating God's presence

Central United Church, Port Colborne

We live in a time when many people seem to be tragically distanced from God.

see that on a regular basis in my ministry, as I deal with people who, facing a variety of circumstances, find it difficult to perceive the presence of God. The result of this is usually either rejection of God (if I can't believe that God is with me then there must be no God) or fear (the very distance we perceive makes God seem more mysterious, more frightening and less

approachable).
I've often thought that the antidote

to either of these problems is found in some words of Jesus that were recorded in Luke 18: "The Kingdom of God does not come with your careful observation, nor will people say 'here it is' or 'there it is' because the King-

dom of God is within you."
These words of Jesus would seem to suggest that either the rejection of God or the frantic spiritual quest that some may engage in to find a sliver of communion with the divine are both misguided. To either reject God because we can't find him or to frantically search for God miss the basic

point that Jesus was trying to make. See I'VE BEEN THINKING | Page 6

■readers'views

Thank you Marshville volunteers

On behalf of the Marshville Heritage Festival Committee, I would like to extend a sincere thank you to all the faithful volunteers who gave their time and energy to make this year's festival one of the best ever!

Many of the surveys handed in complimented the volunteers with such gracious words as very politic, helpful, accommodating, knowledgeable looked authentic in period wear, etc. That's it in a nutshell.

You, the volunteers are our biggest

i- asset (along with the fantastic e weather), so thank you! Thank You! I Thank you! ir A number of valuable items were

found and are in our possession, please call 905-899-9995 if you lost something.

The winners of our raffles were:

quilt ticket No. 0991 Terri Bayes of St. Catharines and the canoe winning ticket is No. 2696 Carl Pleli of Stoney Creek.

Margaret R. Robertson

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR: Copyright in letters and other material submitted to the publisher and accepted for publication remains with the author, but the Publisher and its licenses may freely reproduce them in print, electronic or other form. WORLD ISSUES

Iran: Showdown



7

The tranians have been watching too many James Bond movies. If you want to hide a secret uranium enrichment plant, you should bury it under some existing structure in the heart of the (iy, Hollowing out a mountain just attracts the attention of overy intelligence series of the structure of the

Western intelligence agencies have known about Iran's second uranium enrichment plant, hidden in the mountains west of Qom, since construction began in 2006. Amazingly, it took until now for Iran's spooks to

mountains west of Qom, since construction began in 2006. Armazingly, it took until now for Iran's spooks to realize that and warn Tehran to come clean.

On Monday, the Iranian government delivered a letter to the Interna-

tional Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) admitting that the plant existed. Hiding things always causes suspi-

"The revelation of this second nuclear enrichment site ... proves beyond any doubt that (Iran) wants to equip itself with nuclear weapons," said Israell Foreign Minister Avigdor Lieberman.

The Qom discovery also brought Russian President Dmitry Medvedev around to the view that, "in some cases, sanctions are inevitable."

The United States, Britain, France and Germany were already convinced that Iran Is working on nuclear weapons, and Russia makes five. Out of the six countries that are negotiating with Iran (the five permanent members of the Security Council plus Germany), only China is still holding out, but it is starting to waver.

Next Thursday's meeting between

Iran and the Six may not be followed immediately by sanctions, but they are coming soon. Yet it is still not clear that Iran is actually seeking nuclear weapons, The religious leadership regularly declares that they are "un-Islamic, and presumably takes its own decrees seriously. On the other hand, the country has been facing the threat of attack by the United States or Israel, using conventional or even nuclear weapons, for decades. So it's hardly surprising that the Iranians decided on a back-up site for uranium enrichment in case their main enrichment plant at Nazran were destroyed.

See GWYNNE DYER | Page 5

Has Iran broken the law?

....

However, the site near Qom is much smaller, and could not supply the large quantities of slightly enriched uranium that a nuclear power station requires. What it could do is supply the small quantities of highly enriched uranium that a nuclear weapons requires. Many people therefore think that the Iranians meant to keep the Oom facility secret permanently, enriching uranium for nuclear weapons there while everybody monitored their innocent activ-ities at Natanz. Others, including myself, think that the secondary site near Qom is meant to give Iran the option of going flat-out for nuclear weapons if the U.S. or Israel attacks and destroys the main enrichment site at Natanz. Both of these possible rationales were pretty stupid, since there was really no way that the Oom site could stay secret But it does matter which of those motives underlay the Oom site: was it to build secret nuclear weapons as soon as possible, or to have the ability to build nuclear weapons if attacked?

The probable answer, given the regime's theological objections to nuclear weapons, is that it genuinely wants an independent source of fuel for its civil nuclear power goes and sanctions in the past—and it also wants the ability to produce nuclear weapons within six to 12 months if it is attacked. A number of other countries have sought and attained such a threshold capability over the sought and attained such as threshold capability over the other countries in the countries in the sought and attained such as threshold capability over the countries in the count

but under the Nuclear Non-Prolleration Teaty, it is, tries believe that tain intends to go beyond that legal threshold, and actually make nuclear weapons now. They are the same countries that metakany's hought lim plat dundest assent countries that metakany's hought lim plat dundest processed that the plat metakany's hought limit to the consecution of the plat metakany's hought limit to the consecution of the plat metakany limit to the consecution the plat metakany to the consecution of the plat metakany to the consecution of the plat metakany to the plat metakany to the plat metakany the plat metak

obligation, but the IAEA says it cannot do so unilaterally. So maybe Iran has now broken the law, or maybe it hasn't. But sanctions are now almost certain, and the odds on this ending in U.S. or Israeli military strikes on Iran just sot a lot shorter.

Gwynne Dyer is a London-based independent journalist whose articles are published in 45

■ HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY: Celebrating 80 years



MAGGIE RIOPELLE Staff Photo
The Port Colborne Horticultural Society celebrated its 80th



ALLM BENER Saff Proto Gloria Arnold, Grade 5 teacher from McKay Public School, discusses the significance of the annual Berry for Run to students sitting around a tree at H. H. Knoll Lakeview Park planted in 2005 in recognition of the 25th armoresary of the Ferry fox Run All 200 students from the school participated in the Run All 200 students from the school participated in the the past 12 years at the school.











DR. BRENDA WATSON, ND. CNC. CT



What are Probiotics?

Probiotics - Essential for good health

The term 'grobotic' manus supporting Ela Probibitis are hisedly, beneficial bentrais, which are normal inhabitant of the large and moral inheritants. They are an important part of a healthy digestion system. Recent research shows that probibitis help improve gestrivinitischal inversación states that probibitis help improve gestrivinitischal incurrent electron artificial tourist help electron artificial tourist help loss of the probibitis help inversación sometiment a lordina help artificial tourist help doubt to 10 produce vilaminis. 2) absorb nativents, and 3) control overgrowth of bad backeria and films of the sometiment of the probibitis of the sometiment of the some

Probiotics normally present a barrier to invading organisms; however when they are impaired through stress, illness, antibiotics treatment, or changes to the diet, the barrier can be disrupted. Once the barrier has been disrupted, bad bacteria and fungus can overgrow, causing many digestive & health problems.

Ideally it would be great to remove what causes the destruction of beneficial bacteria (stress, steroids, arbibiotics etc). However, sometimes these medications are required for health, and stress is often enviable. What can be done instead, is to replace the beneficial bacterial that has been lost

n order to counter the effects of the ladd bacteria, supplementing with products as required. Unfortunately not all probations are created equal. ProssBMRT in a ladd of sever station or protoco, formulated to resetablish good related in bacteria of sever station or protoco, formulated to resetablish good related in bacteria of the sever to resetablish good related in bacteria of the several or and the protocolors of the protocolors or all the protocolors or called and the protocolors, or continued and with a grant of the protocolors contained are allow and would be for use in the intensal that Call in entertain that Call its entertained to the protocolors contained are allow and would be for use in the intensal that Call intensal that Call intensal intens



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I'VE REEN THINKING

Opening up to the divine presence within us

God doesn't have to be found, neither does God's presence have to be sought, God's presence should simply be celebrated. Rather than wasting valuable time searching here and there for God, Jesus seemed to suggest that we should sit back, still ourselves, and realize that God is already within us.

guiding us and directing us. I wonder what kind of difference it would make in our society if, instead of desperately searching, we became aware of God's imme-

diate presence? Many of the faults of religion which have caused so many people to turn away from the church or from organized religion in general would surely disappear if we could live with both the certainty and the assurance

that God is right here with us. Much of the bigotry, hatred and violence that so many people perceive to be a part of religion would surely disappear if we who claim to believe in God would take seriously the proposition that a loving God who cre ated us all, who came to us in lesus and who sacrificed for us (showing us that to follow the way of Jesus is based on humility and service, rather than on power and control)

was actually and powerfully present with us. The Christian faith, it seems to me, has made great strides in recent decades, moving from a faith which unfortunately often sought to scare people into the Kingdom through "fire and brimstone" sermons and threats of damnation to a faith which has largely come to understand that the way of Jesus is the way of love - love for God and love for neighbours — expressed in service. Certainly, we're not perfect. Far from it, in

fact, but at least we seem more able now to humbly acknowledge our imperfections. It seems to me that the acknowledgement of our imperfections - our willingness now to admit that however faithful we may strive

I wonder what kind of difference it would make in our society if. instead of desperately searching. we became aware of God's immediate presence?

be - opens us to the presence of God within us. Rather than painting a picture of God as we want God to be, perhaps we can now allow God to do the painting, recreating us slowly and bit by bit - into what we should

If only we could all - Christian and non-Christian, religious and non-religious - be at least open to the possibility of God's presence within us, and strive to live in the light of God's presence, rather than in the darkness of our own presuppositions and prejudices, what a wonderful world we might be able to create.

localbrief

GOOD NEWS FOR SOUTH NIAGARA PORT COLBORNE - With \$1,025,000 in new funding, South Niagara Community Futures Development Corp. can do much more to help residents.

We're going to be able to do some exciting things we've never been able to before." aid Terry Kadwell, the organization's community economic development manager

Provided by the Federal Economic Devel opment Agency for Southern Ontario to help stimulate the economy in Port Colborne Wainfleet, the funding will allow Community Futures to assist local businesses and provide employment to residents.

One initiative will pay half the wages for new employees where employers pitch in the other half of salaries. Another initiative will provide project funding to organizations such as chambers of commerce and business improvement area boards. Funding will also be used to help local businesses become a little more competitive.

Community Futures board chair Sandy White said the new program "will help fund business startups and expansions, as well as community projects and initiatives."

Funding includes \$450,000 for providing loans to small-and medium-sized businesses, \$75,000 in operating funds and \$500,000 as part of the new South Western Ontario Development Program Kadwell said the funding will help the

local economy in a variety of ways. "It's a very versatile program and it's something that has never happened in our

area before." Kadwell said "From a practical point of view, this pro-

gram will pay for someone to get certification. It will pay for a company to have a website. It's going to be able to pay for wages and salaries of people who want to get back to work," he said. "Unlike other government programs

these will have an immediate impact on the businesses that receive the funding.

- Allan Benner, InPort News Staff

to be we, are far from what God wants us to ASK A DENTURIST

Q. I need to have all my teeth removed, but I don't want to be without teeth. What can I do? A. To avoid the situation of being without teeth, your Denturist will implement the Immediate Denture technique

Q. How is this technique done?

A. This involves taking impressions of your mouth while your teeth are still present. The Denturist is then able to fabricate a denture in the likeness of your natural teeth, or make any necessary modifications you may wish.

O, When do I actually get my Immediate Denture?

A, when your natural teeth are removed, your Immediate Denture is then inserted. In this technique, you have avoided having to go without any teeth while you go through the healing process.

O. How long is the healing process?

A. As healing occurs over the next few months, the oral tissues recede, so denture adjustments may be required. Follow-up appointments with your Denturist are necessary. To maintain the best fit and comfort, a temporary liner or tissue conditioner may be placed in the denture. During the next few months, bone and gum tissue will probably continue to shrink to some degree, however, the rate of change decreases with time. This is a natural occurance which is expected.

O. What are the benefits of having an Immediate Denture?

A. In addition to making life easier for you and enabling you to go to work promptly, immediate dentures offer several other advantages. They protect the tissues of the mouth, minimize bleeding, and promote even healing, as well as help you enunicate clearly and chew better.

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Oct. 8: The Port Colborne Hospital Auxiliary is holding a bake sale at the main lobby of the hospi-

tal at 9 a.m Oct. 15: The Port Colhorne Horticultural Society will be hosting its October meeting at the Friends over 55 Seniors Centre on Fielden Ave. at 7:30 p.m. The "buzz" around the garden is that bees are very important to the garden. Guest speaker Rick Harvey will address this topic. Light refreshments will be available.

Oct. 30: Meals on Wheels Port Colborne will host a spooktacular murder mystery dinner (tastefully executed) in support of the United Way. Tick-ets are \$40 for the dinner to be held at the Croatian National Home on Broadway Ave. in Welland. Call 905-835-1581 for tickets.

. Tuesdays at St. Peter's Lutheran Church, 200 Erie St., the Port Colborne Air Cadets will accept new registrations during their training nights from 6:45 p.m. to 9 p.m. The cadets are available for boys and girls between the ages of 12 to 18. Fo more information, contact John Derousie at 905-227-7609 and visit www.cadets.ca.

· Crafters Wanted for the annual craft sale at Friends Over 55, on Saturday, Nov. 14 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Cost is \$10 per table call the Centre at 905-835-1731, or stop by 554 Fielden Ave. for more

 Adult Children of Alcoholics is an anonymous 12 step program and support group for persons who grew up with alcohol or dysfunction. Meetings Fridays, 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. at Central United Church, 30 Delhi St. Newcomers welcome.

> See ALONG THE LAKESHORE | Page 13 AIR DUCT



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Macaroni & Cheese

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- 2. Melt butter in a large pot. Stir in flour, mustard & pepper; blend together theroughly. Slowly add milk, stirring or whisking
- constantly. Bring to a boil; boil for 1 minute, continuing to stir. 3. Remove from heat & stir in cheese until melted. Add reserved macaroni; stir until thoroughly combined.
- 4. Proheat over to 325 degrees F. Spray a 4 quart baking dish with non-stick cooking spray. Pour macaroni mixture into dish. Sprinkle with more choose, paprika & dried parsley.

Bake for 3/4 to 1 hour uncovered, until hot & bubbly

"Join Us on Senior's Day" starting Monday, October 5th 55 Years & Over

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CULTURE: Students celebrate their heritage



Submitted Photos

Students and staff at Ecole Saint Joseph celebrated their French heritage and trademark green and white flag called le drapeau franco ontarien last Friday. Students celebrated by marching down the street showing off their colours, participated in activities and painted their faces green and white.







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PORT COLBORNE

CITY OF PORT COLBORNE NOTICE OF INTENTION TO PASS A ZONING BY-LAW AMENDMENT TO REMOVE A HOLDING SYMBOL PURSUANT TO SECTION 36 OF THE PLANNING ACT, R.S.O. 1990

TAKE NOTICE that the Council of the Corporation of the City of Port Colborne proposes to pass a By-law on October 13, 2009, at 6:30 p.m., under Section 36 of the Planning Act, R.S.O., 1990, for properties lying contiguous to the north and south of Main Street West, east of Elm Street and west of the Welland Canal in the City of Port Colborne, Regional Municipality of Niagara and as shown on the map below.

By-law 5052/107/07 was passed on the 24th day of September 2007 and amended Zoning By-law 1150/97/81 by applying a "Holding Provision" to those lands that would prohibit the issuance of a Building Permit for exterior development until such time that the City has:

- Completed detailed exterior Urban Design Guidelines.
- 2) Completed and adopted a Community Improvement Plan addressing special design policies and programs.
- 3) Amended the Official Plan to contain urban design policy framework and the requirement of Site Plan Control for new development. 4) Amended the Site Plan Control By-law to require all development to be subject to Site Plan Control.

The above requirements will have been completed to allow the Holding Provision to be removed from the subject property.

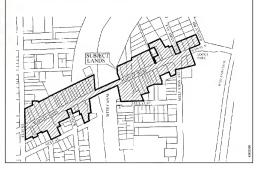
Please note that in accordance with the provisions of Section 36(4) of the Planning Act, R.S.O., 1990, the passing of the proposed By-law is NOT subject to appeal to the Ontario Municipal Board.

If you have any questions they may be directed to Shannon Larocque of the Department of Planning and Development at (905) 835-2901 ext. 202.

Dated at the City of Port Colborne this 23rd day of September, 2009.

Shannon Larocque, Planner Department of Planning & Development

City of Port Colborne, 66 Charlotte Street, Port Colborne, Ontario L3K 3C8





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Breakfast Club gets a boost



McKay School Breakfast Club got a boost from the Young Automotive Professionals when the company donated a cheque for \$1,000. Shown here are Tom Little, of The Young Automotive Professionals; Karen Gagnon, educational assistant and club volunteer; students Emmee Van Helvert and Jason Thewles; and McKay vice-principal Greg Watson.

PORT COLBORNE - The Breakfast Club at McKay School is going strong thanks to local community support. Recently, the Young Automotive Professionals dropped

this summer at Whisky Run Golf Course.

the school. The club got underway at the school last September.

to bump up to five," Gagnon said.

"The club wouldn't run without the volunteers," she said. "They work really hard."

fast club at the school possible. The breakfast club was founded on the idea that chil-

dren learn better on full stomachs. Last year, the program was getting about 160 kids a day.

taken to make the program more environmentallyfriendly, Gagnon said the club recently purchased plastic cups and plates that can be reused.

The program follows the Canada Food Guide and has nutritional partners that recommend menu choices. Children get everything from French toast to fresh fruit to help





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■ PORT CARES: Social assistance agency reports more than 56,000 client contacts last year

One in seven Niagara children are living in poverty

ALLAN BENNER InPort News Staff

PORT COLBORNE — The need was unprecedented over the past year.

"I was amazed to read the statistics in the manager's report," said Lynda Reinhart, executive director of Port

Cares. "It said over 56,000 client contacts were made at our resource centre front desk, and 29,000 of those were made in person."

resource centre front desk, and 29,000 of those were made in person."

The social assistance agency has made a difference for many of those people, Reinhart told a standing-room-only

crowd at the annual general meeting. Tuesday Sept. 22 at the Port Cares Reach Out Centre on Nickel St. For instance, about 80% of the 900 people who sought the organization's

people who sought the organization's assistance in finding employment were working within three months of visiting Port Cares' job centre.

Meanwhile, about 70% of the clients at the organization's learning centre went on to further education. While Niagara community services

commissioner Brian Hutchings congratulated Port Cares on its accomplishments over the past year, it was his presentation that made it very clear there's much more to do to address issues of poverty in Port Colborne, and throughout the region.

Quoting information compiled in the region's 2007 report A Legacy of Poverty, Hutchings told the audience that discussing poverty is not a popular topic for people trying to boost the regions tourism.
"It's beautiful. There's no poverty on

"It's beautiful. There's no poverty on Queen St. in Niagara- on-the-Lake," he said.

But one in seven Nlagara children are living in poverty, and 42% of social assistance recipients are children. The region's studies also clearly demonstrate that poverty is having an impact on children academically. It's not something that can be ignored.

Hutchings called it "a blemish" that needs to be exposed so it can be dealt with. And his department has a plan to help.

help.
He said the regional government has committed \$1.5 million in annual funding to reducing poverty in the region. It's part of a plan to invest in neighbourhoods

where there are high levels of people living in poverty.
"The Business Education Council is our partner and they're playing a leading role helping us make these investments, working with local agencies," he said.

ments, working with local agencies," he said.

"The idea first of all is investing in organizations like
Port Cares, the next thing will be investing in people in
neighbourhoods."

Hutchings said the region is also considering partnering with businesses, "to try to see what assets we can build in neighbourhoods such as this to help individuals out." But additional changes need to occur at higher levels of

government as well, including on employment insurance reform.

For people who lost their jobs, he said employment insurance used to be the first step in the social safety net. But now, an increasing number of people who don't qualify for employment insurance are forced to apply for social assistance.

See PORT CARES | Page 15



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Port Colborne Public Library activities:

• Kids Knitting with Vicki Fretz. Classes begin Thursday afternoon, Oct. 1 to Oct. 29 from 4 p.m. to 4:45 p.m. \$15 for five classes (you need five classes to complete your project). Call Vicki at 905-835-5373. Register and prepay at the library. space is limited.

· Tai Chi can improve your health, well-being balance and breathing. Mondays 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the library. Call 905-321-9536 . Yoga with Heather Jones at the Port Colborne

Public Library, Wednesdays, 9:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. Began Sept. 16 and runs until Nov. 4. For more information or to register call Heather at 905-892 Adult Knitting classes with Vicki on Tuesdays evenings, Began on Sept. 22 and runs until Oct. 20. From 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. and Thursday afternoons (until Oct. 22) from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. To join the knitters' club call Vicki Fretz at 905-835-5373. . Stories and crafts. For ages six and under Began Sept. 24 and runs until Dec. 3. Cost \$1. Preregister at the library. Parents are required to stay with children under age three.

 Cocoa Craft Club. For ages eight to 13 on Wednesdays, Sept. 30, Oct. 7, 21, Nov. 4, 18 and Dec. 2. Stories, activities, games, crafts & a mug of cocoa. Cost is \$2. Pre-register at the library.

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■ PEOPLE, PLACES: Journalist reads from latest novel. The Bishop's Man: Paul Dayboll joins half-century club; taking a bow after last ballroom lesson.

Roselawn welcomes CBC host, author Linden MacIntyre



George Duma BYGFORGE

Readings at The Roselawn - The Canadian Authors' Series, kicked off its new season last Thursday evening with Linden MacIntyre, the host of CBC TV's The Fifth Estate. He read from his latest novel. The Bishop's Man, to a packed house.

MacIntyre is one of the very finest investigative journalists we have ever produced in this country. And I love his work. He joined The Fifth Estate as co-host for the 1990-91 season after an extensive

career in both print and broadcast journalism. During the course of 30 years. MacIntyre traveled the globe, from the Middle East to Africa, through Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union, to Central America, all the while producing top-notch documentaries and stories

The man has credentials. Take for example, his documentary, To Sell a War screened during the 1992/93 Fifth Estate season. In it, be exposed a \$10.7 million public relations campaign launched on behalf of the Kuwait Royal family to sell the American public on the Persian Gulf War. It

won him an international Emmy And that's just scratching the surface. It's only one of many awards he's received over his career, far too many to mention them

I covered the authors' series last Thursday evening at Roselawn for The Tribune. MacIntyre's novel, The Bishop's Man deals with the sexual abuse scandal that has plagued the Roman Catholic Church over



the course of decades. It was a fascinating

(Full coverage is available on The Tribune's website under the Arts/Life icon at the top of the site. Go back to Sat. Sept. 26 under the Lifestyle icon.) I've always been a big fan of good inves-

tigative broadcast journalism, programs like 60 Minutes and MacIntyre's Fifth Estate. Indeed, one of my sources of inspiration is Edward R. Murrow, the American CBS icon who set the bar for outstanding broadcast journalism during the Second World War when he covered the air attacks on London during the Battle of Britain from a rooftop in that city.

He later belped bring down Sen. Joe McCarthy and his Communist witch hunts during the early 1950s. Check out the movie Good Night And Good Luck, produced by George Clooney. You won't regret

But I digress. I found it intriguing last Thursday to hear MacIntyre say he sees little difference in his work as an investigative reporter and that

of a novelist. He has written three novels. "All my life I've been inspired by the works of writers like Charles Dickens, Victor Hugo, Hemingway. The only thing fake in their books was the characters. Everything else was real. They effected more change in their societies than any newspaper article," MacIntyre told the

audience And, of course, he's right, Read any of those three authors and others like them and you can quickly see they are trying to right the wrongs in their respective societ-

ies through the written word. Also refreshing when meeting people like MacIntyre is how totally and completely unpretentious they are.

I met him in Roselawn's Green Room last Thursday for a photo shoot before the reading's 8 p.m. start. He was charming gracious, accommodating and completely down to earth.

Almost a year ago, I had the opportunity to hear Bob Woodward of Watergate and All The President's Men fame speak at the Sheraton on the Falls in Niagara Falls, I also bad an opportunity to have a chat with him





GEORGE DUMA InPort News Photos

Left: Linden MacIntyre, the host of CBC TV's The Fifth Estate read from his latest novel, The Bishop's Man, to a packed house at The Roselawn Centre last week. Right: Cathy and Paul Dayboll share a laugh at Paul's 50th birthday celebration Saturday afternoon at Mamma Mia's in Port Colborne.

before and after. He, too, was gracious and down to earth. Not a nose in the air to be found between the two of them. Woodward and MacIntyre are both guys I'd love to have a beer with and get to know

better. Journalists tend to be like that. They realize they cover the stories rather than being the stories, even when they are the stories. And they act accordingly.

In this bizarre age of bizarre celebrity,

that's refreshing. My dear friend Paul Dayboll has hit the

half-century mark. It somehow sounds a beck of a lot more daunting when put that way than to simply say he's 50. His wife, Cathy, organized a luncheon

bash for him at Mamma Mia's in Port last Saturday, I adore Cathy, She is just such an amazing individual

There were about 35 of us and we felt so honoured to be there because at least 25 of that number were Paul's family. To be

included in that inner circle was, indeed, a privilege and we are grateful to have been a

part of it. Thank you, Cathy. Paul and I go way back but over the last two years he has become a close friend and

We work together at Niagara College. He's the coordinator of the journalism program I teach in. He's my shoulder to lean on at the college and he does it so well. I know at times I must be such a pain in the neck but he never complains. Saturday afternoon was filled with won-

derful stories, lots of laughs and even a song commemorating Paul's being. Son Josb was the highlight of the afternoon for me. He and his lovely lady Maddie Lambie brought laughs and poignancy. Daughter Becky and her beau, Rob, are in Edmonton and for obvious reasons couldn't make it. But they were certainly there in spirit

Johanne and Joe are always such wonderful hosts at Mamma Mia's

See BY GEORGE | Page 15







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BY GEORGE

Port restaurant serves up hospitality

Theirs is a place you go when what you really want is to be at home but you just don't feel like cooking. It really did feel like we were at somebody's house and not at a restaurant. Thank you to both of you for your hospitality.

One, two, three, four, One, two three, four, With your partner, move forward, to the side, back, and to the side.

There. You've just danced the waltz. A very basic waltz, mind you, but still, the waltz. Ten weeks of ballroom-dancing lessons swept into the Italian Hall last Wednesday and, well, two things

First, I had no idea how simple a dance step the waltz actually is. What you do with it after that, of course, gets much more difficult but I

can see how once we get the hang of it, it will become effortless. That's the idea, anyway. Second, I had no idea what an excellent workout it is. After an hour lesson, my calves were

sore. Of course, that might say more about me than the dancing. There were about a dozen of us and it's a fun.

diverse group, both in age and in experience. As I wrote a month ago, leading up to the lessons, Sue and Peter Kennington, 58 and 66 respectively, of Niagara Falls, are teaching the lessons. They're a fun couple that met in 1997,

began dating in 2001, and married a year later. And, they really know their stuff, The hall, with the hanging chandeliers, grand

elegance and spectacular dance floor, is a natural setting for ballroom lessons. The coming weeks will be fun. Going out

dancing after that will be even more fun. We're looking forward to it.

George Duma is a resident of Port Colborne and has spent 30 years in the newspaper business. He is currently a member of the journalism faculty at Niagara College. He welcomes comments and column suggestions and can be reached at: gduma@cogeco.ca.

PORT CARES

Society needs paradigm shift to address poverty

"We're seeing more and more people coming into our offices who are ineligible for employment insurance," Hutchings said.

Another thing that needs to change on a societal scale is public perception of the poor and a tendency to blame them for their poverty

"There are a lot of individuals out there who are working damn hard ... and they're still in poverty," he said.

There was a time in the 1960s and '70s when seniors were living in poverty. Society, he added, would not tolerate older generations spending their golden years in poverty. It led to the formation of programs such as the Canadian Pension Plan and old age security programs.

The same paradigm shift needs to occur to address poverty in general, and especially among children because social assistance payments leave them below the poverty level.

"Individuals living on social assistance receive \$6,800 a year. That's 62% below the low-income cutoff," Hutchings said.

Meanwhile, a family of four on social assistance is expected to live on about \$15,000 a year. According to recent polls, he said, there is public support for government strategies aimed

at eliminating poverty. "We need to work together," Hutchings said. We're saving an individual can live on \$6,800 a year. We're saying individuals and kids can live



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To pursue these opportunities please send your resume, specifying which position you are applying for, to the attention of Amy Devereaux at smy.devereaux@bridosechc.ca or via sax to 305-871-9135. All epplications must be submitted no later then 4:00pm Friday, October 8th, 2009.

ART STUDENTS GET CRAFTY



Submitted Photo A group of Port Colborne High School art students designed and created a log cabin quilt. Red Green style, using materials and duct tage, for the backdrop of the stage at the Wainfleet Fall Fair. Charlie Thoms was one of many students to chip in In

■ HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL: Lakeshore defeats St. Michael in season opener

Gator steps up to gridiron glory

JOHN VESSOYAN

PORT COLBORNE — No Corey Davidson. No Hoas Langeraap. No problem. Instead, the Lakeshore Catholic Gators, the defending Golden Horseshoe Bowl champions, turned to another young man with sneed and toughness: For Erie's

Keaton Spratt.

Lakeshore's senior football team is without last year's star running back, Davidson, and Langeraap, his backup, as both have moved on. But Spratt is back, even wearing Davidson's old No. 22 jeros. In last Friday Premier Division season-nearing game. Spratt sorred a pail of

In last Friday Premier Division seasonopening game, Spratt scored a pair of touchdowns to guide the Gators to a 31-2 victory over the visiting St. Michael Mustang.

Spratt, who also had an interception, scored both of his touchdowns on run-

ning plays. He admitted the scores weren't entirely because of him, giving credit to the big boys in front of him. "My performance was due to the line. I couldn't have done it without them," the

Grade 12 student said.

The Gators hope to make it two in a row as they face off against the Saint Paul Patriots under the lights at Mitchellson Park in Niagara Falls tonight.

Lakeshore head coach Rocky DiPietro said he's not looking for Spratt to replace Davidson, but rather just be himself on the football field.

"He's an awesome player, an awesome kid. I don't think he has to fill anybody's shoes—he has tons of potential." Quarterback Gary Snyder and running back/kicker John Gibson each had a touchdown for the Gators, who visit the Saint Paul Patriots next Friday night in

Niagara Falls.

Gibson also kicked a 37-yard field goal.

The only points the Mustangs got were from a safety after a bad punt attempt by Lakeshore in the second quarter.

The Gators lost yards because of penalties, especially in the first half, but the visitors from Niagara Falls failed to capitalize.

"I was harry with the win unbarry."

"I was happy with the win, unhappy about the penalties," DiPletro said. The coach was expecting a more difficult test from the opposition. "I thought they would come out harder.

We got good field position," he said.

Two years ago Lakeshore suffered a scare at the hands of the Mustangs in the playoffs and were nearly eliminated by them and last season the Gators almost dropped their regular game against St. Michael on the road. So vesterday's result was the property of the pr

caught DiPietro off guard.
"St. Mike's always plays us tough."

Lakeshore is coming off a superb season in which they beat Burlington's Notre Dame to become Ontario champions for the second time. Before getting to play the final at Rogers Centre in Toronto, the Gators defeated St. Marcellinus of Mississauga in the semifinal, and before that, got rid of Saint Paul in a Premier Division championship game.

Mustangs coach Dominic Scozzafava must be thinking that his team took a step back in their development thanks to yesterday's performance. The Mustangs offence was nonexistent and their defence wasn't much better.

"I'm very disappointed," he said.
The schedule makers weren't kind to St.
Michael — having the Mustangs open the
2009 season against the champs. But
Scozzafava didn't use that as an excuse.

"It's tough, but it's a new season," he said of the facing the Gators. A notable name missing from Lakeshore's noster is wide receiver Eddy Sidam; who's back for another year of high school but isn't in a Gators uniform. Sources said Sidami attended training camp, then left the team, but might return next week, which would give Lakeshore another weason on offere.



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